

THE PROCEEDINGS
OF
A SESSION SPECIALLY CALLED

ON
TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 1817.

To the Senators of the United States, respectively:

WASHINGTON, January 1, 1817.

SIR: Objects interesting to the United States requiring that the Senate should be in session on the fourth of March next, to receive such communications as may be made to it on the part of the Executive, your attendance in the Senate Chamber in this city, on that day, is accordingly requested.

JAMES MADISON.

In conformity with the summons from the President of the United States, above recited, the Senate assembled in their Chamber, in the City of Washington.

PRESENT:

From the State of

New Hampshire,	-	{	The Hon. Jeremiah Mason, and David L. Morrill.
Massachusetts,	-	{	The Hon. Eli P. Ashmun, and Harrison Gray Otis.
Rhode Island,	-	{	The Hon. William Hunter, and James Burrill, Jun.
Vermont,	-	{	The Hon. Dudley Chase, and Isaac Tichenor.
Connecticut,	-	{	The Hon. David Daggett, and Samuel W. Dana.
New York,	-	{	The Hon. Rufus King, and Nathan Sanford.
New Jersey,	-	{	The Hon. James J. Wilson, and Mahlon Dickerson.
Pennsylvania,	-	{	The Hon. Abner Lacock, and Jonathan Roberts.
Delaware,	-	{	The Hon. Outerbridge Horsey, and Nicholas Vandyke.
Maryland,	-	{	The Hon. Robert H. Goldsborough, and Alexander C. Hanson.
Virginia,	-		The Hon. James Barbour.
North Carolina,	-	{	The Hon. Nathaniel Macon, and Montford Stokes.
South Carolina,	-	{	The Hon. John Gaillard, and William Smith.

Georgia,	-	-	{ The Hon. Charles Tait, and George M. Troup.
Kentucky,	-	-	{ The Hon. Isham Talbot.
Tennessee,	-	-	{ The Hon. George W. Campbell, and John Williams.
Ohio,	-	-	{ The Hon. Jeremiah Morrow, and Benjamin Ruggles.
Louisiana,	-	-	{ The Hon. Elegius Fromentin.
Indiana,	-	-	{ The Hon. James Noble, and Waller Taylor.

The Honorable John Gaillard, President *pro tempore*, resumed the chair.

The Honorable David L. Morrill, appointed a Senator by the Legislature of the State of New Hampshire; the Honorable Harrison Gray Otis, appointed a Senator by the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; the Honorable Mahlon Dickerson, appointed a Senator by the State of New Jersey; and the Honorable James Burrill, Jun., appointed a Senator by the Legislature of the State of Rhode Island, respectively for the term of six years, commencing this day, produced their credentials, which were read, and the oath prescribed by law was administered to them, and they took their seats in the Senate.

The oath was also administered to Mr. Smith, Mr. Stokes, Mr. Troup, Mr. Vandyke, and Mr. Williams; their credentials having been read and filed during the last session.

Daniel D. Tompkins, Vice-President of the United States, and President of the Senate, having appeared, Mr. Gaillard administered the oath of office to him, and he took the chair; when he addressed the Senate, as follows:

Gentlemen of the Senate:

In entering the office of Vice-President, I beg leave to offer a public acknowledgment of the honor conferred upon me by the people of the United States, by placing me next in their confidence to that illustrious citizen, whose patriotism, virtues, and eminent public services, receive this day the highest reward that a free people can bestow.

I assume the duties assigned me in the Senate, with the greatest diffidence, arising from a consciousness of my inexperience in the forms of deliberative assemblies; and when, at the same time, I reflect that this chair has hitherto been adorned by men of the first distinction for experience, talents, and character, I am oppressed by the magnitude of the responsibility which now devolves upon me.

My heart assures me that I may promise upright intentions, zealous industry, and rigid impartiality. If aught beyond these shall merit approbation, it will be justly ascribed to the wisdom and magnanimity of the members of this dignified body; and upon that wisdom and magnanimity I entirely repose myself for guidance and support.

The President of the United States, the Ex-President, and the Judges of the Supreme Court, having previously entered the Senate Chamber,

On motion by Mr. Barbour,

The Senate adjourned for one hour.

The President of the United States, being attended by the Ex-President of the United States, the Vice-President, the Judges of the Supreme Court, the Senators, and the Marshals of the day, then proceeded to the elevated portico, temporarily erected for the occasion, where, after a short pause, he arose and addressed the audience as follows:

I should be destitute of feeling, if I was not deeply affected by the strong proof which my fellow-citizens have given me of their confidence, in calling me to the high office whose functions I am about to assume. As the expression of their good opinion of my conduct in the public service, I derive from it a gratification, which those who are conscious of having done all that they could to merit it, can alone feel. My sensibility is increased by a just estimate of the importance of the trust, and of the nature and extent of its duties; with the proper discharge of which, the highest interests of a great and free people are intimately connected. Conscious of my own deficiency, I cannot enter on these duties without great anxiety for the result. From a just responsibility I will never shrink; calculating, with confidence, that in my best efforts to promote the public welfare, my motives will always be duly appreciated, and my conduct be viewed with that candor and indulgence which I have experienced in other stations.

In commencing the duties of the chief executive office, it has been the practice of the distinguished men who have gone before me, to explain the principles which would govern them in their respective administrations. In following their venerated example, my attention is naturally drawn to the great causes which have contributed, in a principal degree, to produce the present happy condition of the United States. They will best explain the nature of our duties, and shed much light on the policy which ought to be pursued in future.

From the commencement of our revolution to the present day, almost forty years have elapsed, and from the establishment of this Constitution, twenty-eight. Through this whole term, the government has been, what may emphatically be called, self-government; and what has been the effect? To whatever object we turn our attention, whether it relates to our foreign or domestic concerns, we find abundant cause to felicitate ourselves in the excellence of our institutions. During a period fraught with difficulties, and marked by very extraordinary events, the United States have flourished beyond example. Their citizens, individually, have been happy, and the nation prosperous.

Under this Constitution, our commerce has been wisely regulated with foreign nations, and between the States; new States have been admitted into our Union; our territory has been enlarged, by fair and honorable treaty, and with great advantage to the original States; the States, respectively, protected by the national government, under a mild, parental system, against foreign dangers, and enjoying within their separate spheres, by a wise partition of power, a just proportion of the sovereignty, have improved their police, extended their settlements, and attained a strength and maturity, which are the best proofs of wholesome laws, well administered. And if we look to the condition of individuals, what a proud spectacle does it exhibit! On whom has oppression fallen in any quarter of our Union? Who has been deprived of any right of person or property? Who restrained from offering his vows, in the mode which he prefers, to the Divine Author of his being? It is well known, that all these blessings have been enjoyed in their fullest extent; and I add, with peculiar satisfaction, that there has been no example of a capital punishment being inflicted on any one for the crime of high treason.

Some, who might admit the competency of our government to these beneficent duties, might doubt it in trials which put to the test its strength and efficiency, as a member of the great community of nations. Here, too,

experience has afforded us the most satisfactory proof in its favor. Just as this Constitution was put into action, several of the principal States of Europe had become much agitated, and some of them seriously convulsed. Destructive wars ensued, which have, of late only, been terminated. In the course of these conflicts, the United States received great injury from several of the parties. It was their interest to stand aloof from the contest; to demand justice from the party committing the injury; and to cultivate, by a fair and honorable conduct, the friendship of all. War became, at length, inevitable; and the result has shown, that our government is equal to that, the greatest of trials, under the most unfavorable circumstances. Of the virtue of the people, and of the heroic exploits of the army, the navy, and the militia, I need not speak.

Such, then, is the happy government under which we live; a government adequate to every purpose for which the social compact is formed; a government elective in all its branches, under which every citizen may, by his merit, obtain the highest trust recognised by the Constitution; which contains within it no cause of discord; none to put at variance one portion of the community with another; a government which protects every citizen in the full enjoyment of his rights, and is able to protect the nation against injustice from foreign powers.

Other considerations of the highest importance admonish us to cherish our union, and to cling to the government which supports it. Fortunate as we are, in our political institutions, we have not been less so in other circumstances, on which our prosperity and happiness essentially depend. Situated within the temperate zone, and extending through many degrees of latitude along the Atlantic, the United States enjoy all the varieties of climate, and every production incident to that portion of the globe. Penetrating, internally, to the great lakes, and beyond the sources of the great rivers which communicate through our whole interior, no country was ever happier with respect to its domain. Blessed, too, with a fertile soil, our produce has always been very abundant, leaving, even in years the least favorable, a surplus for the wants of our fellow-men in other countries. Such is our peculiar felicity, that there is not a part of our Union that is not particularly interested in preserving it. The great agricultural interest of the nation prospers under its protection. Local interests are not less fostered by it. Our fellow-citizens of the north, engaged in navigation, find great encouragement in being made the favored carriers of the vast productions of the other portions of the United States, while the inhabitants of these are amply recompensed, in their turn, by the nursery for seamen and naval force, thus formed and reared up for the support of our common rights. Our manufactures find a generous encouragement by the policy which patronizes domestic industry; and the surplus of our produce, a steady and profitable market by local wants, in less favored parts, at home.

Such, then, being the highly favored condition of our country, it is the interest of every citizen to maintain it. What are the dangers which menace us? If any exist, they ought to be ascertained and guarded against.

In explaining my sentiments on this subject, it may be asked, What raised us to the present happy state? How did we accomplish the revolution? How remedy the defects of the first instrument of our Union, by infusing into the national government sufficient power for national purposes, without impairing the just rights of the States, or affecting those of individuals? How sustain, and pass with glory through the late war? The government has been

in the hands of the people. To the people, therefore, and to the faithful and able depositaries of their trust, is the credit due. Had the people of the United States been educated in different principles; had they been less intelligent, less independent, or less virtuous, can it be believed that we should have maintained the same steady and consistent career, or been blessed with the same success? While, then, the constituent body retains its present sound and healthful state, every thing will be safe. They will choose competent and faithful representatives for every department. It is only when the people become ignorant and corrupt; when they degenerate into a populace, that they are incapable of exercising the sovereignty. Usurpation is then an easy attainment, and an usurper soon found. The people themselves become the willing instruments of their own debasement and ruin. Let us, then, look to the great cause, and endeavor to preserve it in full force. Let us, by all wise and constitutional measures, promote intelligence among the people, as the best means of preserving our liberties.

Dangers from abroad are not less deserving of attention. Experiencing the fortune of other nations, the United States may be again involved in war, and it may in that event be the object of the adverse party to upset our government—to break our Union, and demolish us as a nation. Our distance from Europe, and the just, moderate, and pacific policy of our government, may form some security against these dangers, but they ought to be anticipated and guarded against. Many of our citizens are engaged in commerce and navigation, and all of them are, in a certain degree, dependant on their prosperous state. Many are engaged in the fisheries. These interests are exposed to invasion in the wars between other powers, and we should disregard the faithful admonition of experience, if we did not expect it. We must support our rights or lose our character, and with it, perhaps, our liberties. A people who fail to do it, can scarcely be said to hold a place among independent nations. National honor is national property of the highest value. The sentiment in the mind of every citizen, is national strength. It ought, therefore, to be cherished.

To secure us against these dangers, our coast and inland frontiers should be fortified; our army and navy regulated upon just principles as to the force of each, be kept in perfect order, and our militia be placed on the best practicable footing. To put our extensive coast in such a state of defence as to secure our cities and interior from invasion, will be attended with expense, but the work when finished will be permanent; and it is fair to presume that a single campaign of invasion, by a naval force superior to our own, aided by a few thousand land troops, would expose us to greater expense, without taking into the estimate the loss of property and the distress of our citizens, than would be sufficient for this great work. Our land and naval forces should be moderate, but adequate to the necessary purposes. The former, to garrison and preserve our fortifications, and to meet the first invasions of a foreign foe; and, while constituting the elements of a greater force, to preserve the science, as well as all the necessary implements of war, in a state to be brought into activity in the event of war. The latter, retained within the limits proper in a state of peace, might aid in maintaining the neutrality of the United States with dignity in the wars of other powers, and in saving the property of their citizens from spoliation. In time of war, with the enlargement of which the great naval resources of the country render it susceptible, and which should be duly fostered in time of peace, it

would contribute essentially, both as an auxiliary of defence and as a powerful engine of annoyance, to diminish the calamities of war, and to bring the war to a speedy and honorable termination.

But it ought always to be held prominently in view, that the safety of these States, and of every thing dear to a free people, must depend, in an eminent degree, on the militia. Invasions may be made too formidable to be resisted by any land and naval force which it would comport either with the principles of our government or the circumstances of the United States to maintain. In such cases, recourse must be had to the great body of the people, and in a manner to produce the best effect. It is of the highest importance, therefore, that they be so organized and trained as to be prepared for any emergency. The arrangement should be such as to put at the command of the government the ardent patriotism and youthful vigor of the country. If formed on equal and just principles, it cannot be oppressive. It is the crisis which makes the pressure—and not the laws, which provide a remedy for it. This arrangement should be formed too in time of peace, to be the better prepared for war. With such an organization of such a people, the United States have nothing to dread from foreign invasion. At its approach, an overwhelming force of gallant men might always be put in motion.

Other interests of high importance will claim attention; among which the improvement of our country by roads and canals, proceeding always with a constitutional sanction, holds a distinguished place. By thus facilitating the intercourse between the States, we shall add much to the convenience and comfort of our fellow-citizens; much to the ornament of the country; and, what is of greater importance, we shall shorten distances, and by making each part more accessible to and dependant on the other, we shall bind the Union more closely together. Nature has done so much for us by intersecting the country with so many great rivers, bays, and lakes, approaching from distant points so near to each other, that the inducement to complete the work seems to be peculiarly strong. A more interesting spectacle was perhaps never seen than is exhibited within the limits of the United States; a territory so vast and advantageously situated, containing objects so grand—so useful—so happily connected in all their parts.

Our manufactures will likewise require the systematic and fostering care of the government. Possessing, as we do, all the raw materials, the fruit of our own soil and industry, we ought not to depend, in the degree we have done, on supplies from other countries. While we are thus dependant, the sudden event of war, unsought and unexpected, cannot fail to plunge us into the most serious difficulties. It is important, too, that the capital which nourishes our manufactures should be domestic, as its influence, in that case, instead of exhausting, as it may do in foreign hands, would be felt advantageously on agriculture, and every other branch of industry. Equally important is it to provide at home a market for our raw materials, as, by extending the competition, it will enhance the price, and protect the cultivator against the casualties incident to foreign markets.

With the Indian tribes it is our duty to cultivate friendly relations, and to act with kindness and liberality in all our transactions. Equally proper is it to persevere in our efforts to extend to them the advantages of civilization.

The great amount of our revenue, and the flourishing state of the Treasury, are a full proof of the competency of the national resources for any emer-

gency, as they are of the willingness of our fellow-citizens to bear the burdens which the public necessities require. The vast amount of vacant lands, the value of which daily augments, forms an additional resource of great extent and duration. These resources, besides accomplishing every other necessary purpose, put it completely in the power of the United States to discharge the national debt at an early period. Peace is the best time for improvement and preparation of every kind; it is in peace that our commerce flourishes most; that taxes are most easily paid, and that the revenue is most productive.

The executive is charged officially, in the departments under it, with the disbursement of the public money, and is responsible for the faithful application of it to the purposes for which it is raised. The legislature is the watchful guardian over the public purse. It is its duty to see that the disbursement has been honestly made. To meet the requisite responsibility, every facility should be afforded to the executive, to enable it to bring the public agents intrusted with the public money, strictly and promptly to account. Nothing should be presumed against them; but if, with the requisite facilities, the public money is suffered to lie, long and uselessly, in their hands, they will not be the only defaulters, nor will the demoralizing effect be confined to them. It will evince a relaxation and want of tone in the administration, which will be felt by the whole community. I shall do all I can to secure economy and fidelity in this important branch of the administration, and I doubt not that the legislature will perform its duty with equal zeal. A thorough examination should be regularly made, and I will promote it.

It is particularly gratifying to me, to enter on the discharge of these duties at a time when the United States are blessed with peace. It is a state most consistent with their prosperity and happiness. It will be my sincere desire to preserve it, so far as depends on the executive, on just principles, with all nations—claiming nothing unreasonable of any, and rendering to each what is its due.

Equally gratifying is it to witness the increased harmony of opinion which pervades our Union. Discord does not belong to our system. Union is recommended, as well by the free and benign principles of our government, extending its blessings to every individual, as by the other eminent advantages attending it. The American people have encountered together great dangers, and sustained severe trials with success. They constitute one great family, with a common interest. Experience has enlightened us on some questions of essential importance to the country. The progress has been slow, dictated by a just reflection, and a faithful regard to every interest connected with it. To promote this harmony, in accord with the principles of our republican government, and in a manner to give them the most complete effect, and to advance in all other respects the best interests of our Union, will be the object of my constant and zealous exertions.

Never did a government commence under auspices so favorable, nor ever was success so complete. If we look to the history of other nations, ancient or modern, we find no example of a growth so rapid—so gigantic: of a people so prosperous and happy. In contemplating what we have still to perform, the heart of every citizen must expand with joy, when he reflects how near our government has approached to perfection; that, in respect to it, we have no essential improvement to make; that the great object is, to preserve it in the essential principles and features which characterize it, and that that is to be done by preserving the virtue and enlightening the minds of the

people; and, as a security against foreign dangers, to adopt such arrangements as are indispensable to the support of our independence, our rights and liberties. If we persevere in the career in which we have advanced so far, and in the path already traced, we cannot fail, under the favor of a gracious Providence, to attain the high destiny which seems to await us.

In the administrations of the illustrious men who have preceded me in this high station, with some of whom I have been connected by the closest ties from early life, examples are presented which will always be found highly instructive and useful to their successors. From these I shall endeavor to derive all the advantages which they may afford. Of my immediate predecessor, under whom so important a portion of this great and successful experiment has been made, I shall be pardoned for expressing my earnest wishes that he may long enjoy, in his retirement, the affections of a grateful country—the best reward of exalted talents, and the most faithful and meritorious services. Relying on the aid to be derived from the other departments of the government, I enter on the trust to which I have been called by the suffrages of my fellow-citizens, with my fervent prayers to the Almighty, that He will be graciously pleased to continue to us that protection which He has already so conspicuously displayed in our favor.

After which, the oath of office was administered to the President of the United States by the Chief Justice.

The Senate having again assembled,

On motion by Mr. King,

Ordered, That the committee of arrangements wait on the President of the United States, and notify him that the Senate are ready to receive any communications that he may be pleased to make to them.

On motion,

The Senate adjourned to 11 o'clock to-morrow morning.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 1817.

Mr. Goldsborough reported from the committee that they had waited on the President of the United States, who informed them that he should this day, at an early hour, make a communication to the Senate.

On motion by Mr. Dana,

The Senate proceeded to consider the nominations contained in the several messages, as postponed on the third instant.

Mr. Tait, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, to whom was referred, on the 24th February, the message of the same date nominating sundry persons to promotions in the Navy, reported.

Whereupon,

Resolved, That the Senate do advise and consent to the promotions, agreeably to the nominations respectively.

The message received from the President of the United States, on the 27th February, nominating Thomas Wynns, and Henry W. Long, to offices, was read.

On motion, the said nominations were considered by unanimous consent; and

Resolved, That the Senate do advise and consent to the appointment of Thomas Wynns, agreeably to the nomination, and that they do not advise and consent to the appointment of Henry W. Long.

The two following written messages were received from the President of the United States, by Mr. Todd:

To the Senate of the United States:

I nominate John Quincy Adams, of Massachusetts, to be Secretary of State.

William H. Crawford, of Georgia, to be Secretary of the Treasury.

Isaac Shelby, of Kentucky, to be Secretary of War.

JAMES MONROE.

March 5th, 1817.

To the Senate of the United States:

I nominate the persons named in the accompanying list, for the offices respectively, as stated in a letter from the acting Secretary of War.

JAMES MONROE.

March 5th, 1817.

WAR DEPARTMENT,

5th March, 1817.

SIR: I have the honor to lay before you the enclosed list of promotions and appointments for the Army of the United States.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

With perfect respect,

Your obedient servant,

GEORGE GRAHAM,

Acting Secretary of War.

The PRESIDENT of the United States.

Promotions in the Army of the United States.

Corps of Engineers.

Captain Charles Gratiot, to be Major, 9th February, 1815, vice Bomford.

First Lieutenant Edward De Russey, to be Captain, 9th February, 1815, vice Gratiot, promoted.

Second Lieutenant George Trescott, to be First Lieutenant, 9th February, 1815, vice De Russey, promoted.

Light Artillery.

First Lieutenant William F. Hobart, to be Captain, 1st January, 1817, vice Thornton, resigned.

First Lieutenant George N. Morris, to be Captain, 15th January, 1817, vice Irvine, died.

Second Lieutenant Elijah Lyon, to be First Lieutenant, 1st January, 1817, vice Hobart, promoted.

Second Lieutenant Samuel Washburn, to be First Lieutenant, 15th January, 1817, vice Morris, promoted.

Brevet Second Lieutenant Thomas I. Gardner, to be Second Lieutenant, 1st January, 1817, vice Lyon, promoted.

Brevet Second Lieutenant B. L. E. Bonneville, to be Second Lieutenant, 15th January, 1817, vice Washburn, promoted.

First Regiment of Infantry.

Second Lieutenant Thomas Rogers, to be First Lieutenant, 31st October, 1816, vice Farrow, resigned.

Third Regiment of Infantry.

First Lieutenant James Hackley, to be Captain, 17th May, 1816, vice Desha, declined.

Second Lieutenant Asher Philips, to be First Lieutenant, 17th May, 1816, vice Hackley, promoted.

Fourth Regiment of Infantry.

First Lieutenant William Neilson, to be Captain, 1st December, 1816, vice Crawford, resigned.

Second Lieutenant Philip Wager, to be First Lieutenant, 1st December, 1816, vice Neilson, promoted.

Second Lieutenant Joseph Shommo, to be 1st Lieutenant, 31st December, 1816, vice Karney, resigned.

Second Lieutenant Henry Wilson, to be First Lieutenant, 31st December, 1816, vice Yancey, resigned.

Second Lieutenant George B. McClaskey, to be First Lieutenant, 31st December, 1816, vice Pendleton, resigned.

Fifth Regiment of Infantry.

First Lieutenant Henry Whiting, to be Captain, 3d March, 1817, vice Childs, resigned.

Second Lieutenant Nathan Clark, to be First Lieutenant, 3d March, 1817, vice Whiting, promoted.

Seventh Regiment of Infantry.

Second Lieutenant Joseph W. Allston, to be 1st Lieutenant, 20th December, 1816, vice Hall, resigned.

Second Lieutenant Robert H. Goodwin, 1st Lieutenant, 1st February, 1817, vice Gassaway, resigned.

Eighth Regiment of Infantry.

First Lieutenant David Riddle, to be Captain, 15th January, 1817, vice McKeon.

Second Lieutenant Charles Stephens, to be First Lieutenant, 15th January, 1817, vice Riddle, promoted.

Rifle Regiment.

Second Lieutenant Thomas Griffith, to be 1st Lieutenant, 1st March, 1817, vice Laval, resigned.

Appointments in the Army of the United States.

Jacob W. Albright, Pennsylvania, to be Paymaster Second Infantry, 9th July, 1816.

Beaufort T. Watts, to be Battalion Paymaster, in the place of Sneed, resigned.

Abraham Wendell, Third Lieutenant of Artillery, to be Second Lieutenant in the 3d Infantry.

Henry R. Dulany, Third Lieutenant of Artillery, to be Second Lieutenant in the 4th Infantry.

Martin Thomas, late Second Lieutenant 16th Infantry, to be Third Lieutenant Ordnance.

The messages were severally read; and,

On motion,

The message nominating John Quincy Adams, and others, to offices, was considered by unanimous consent.

On the question, "Will the Senate advise and consent to the appointment of John Quincy Adams?"

It was determined in the affirmative: Yeas, 29; Nay, 1.

On motion by Mr. Hanson,

The yeas and nays being desired by one-fifth of the Senators present,

Those who voted in the affirmative, are—Messrs. Barbour, Burrill, Campbell, Chase, Daggett, Dickerson, Fromentin, Gaillard, Goldsborough, Horsey, King, Lacock, Macon, Morrill, Morrow, Noble, Otis, Roberts, Sanford, Smith, Stokes, Tait, Talbot, Taylor, Tichenor, Troup, Van Dyke, Williams, and Wilson.

Mr. Hanson voted in the negative.

So it was

Resolved, That the Senate do advise and consent to the appointment of John Quincy Adams, agreeably to the nomination.

The question to advise and consent to the appointment, being put on the other nominations severally, it was

Resolved, That the Senate do advise and consent to the appointments of William H. Crawford and Isaac Shelby, agreeably to the nominations respectively.

On motion,

The message nominating sundry persons to military promotions and appointments, was considered by unanimous consent; and

Resolved, That they do advise and consent to the promotions and appointments, agreeably to the nominations respectively; except the appointment of Beaufort T. Watts, to which they do not advise and consent.

Ordered, That the Secretary make return to the President of the United States, on all nominations this day acted on.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the nomination of Claude Crozet, contained in the message of the 24th of February; and,

On motion,

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. Barbour and Mr. Sanford, to inquire and report thereon.

On motion by Mr. Lacock,

Ordered, That Mr. Wilson and Mr. Taylor be added to the Committee on Accounts.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. Barbour and Mr. Sanford be a committee to wait on the President of the United States, and notify him, that unless he may have any further communications to make to them, the Senate are ready to adjourn.

On motion by Mr. Barbour,

The Senate adjourned to 9 o'clock, to-morrow morning.

THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 1817.

Mr. Barbour, from the Committee to whom was referred the nomination of Claude Crozet, contained in the message of the 24th of February, reported. Whereupon,

Resolved, That the Senate do advise and consent to the appointment, agreeably to the nomination.

The four following written messages were received from the President of the United States, by Mr. Todd:

To the Senate of the United States:

I nominate Benjamin Parke, of Indiana, to be Judge of the District Court of the United States, in the State of Indiana.

Thomas H. Blake, of Indiana, to be Attorney of the United States, for the District of Indiana.

John Vawter, of Indiana, to be Marshal for the District of Indiana.

JAMES MONROE.

5th March, 1817.

To the Senate of the United States:

I nominate James McKay, of North Carolina, to be Attorney of the United States, for the District of North Carolina, in the place of Robert H. Jones, resigned.

JAMES MONROE.

March 6th, 1817.

To the Senate of the United States:

I nominate Harris Jenkins, of Pennsylvania, to be Collector of Direct Taxes and Internal Duties, for the twentieth collection district of Pennsylvania, in the place of Andrew Beaumont, resigned.

Isaiah Slater, of Louisiana, principal Assessor for the First District of Louisiana, in the place of John Casson, resigned.

I withdraw the nomination of *David Hound*, as Collector of Direct Taxes and Internal Duties for the third collection district of Virginia, and nominate David Hanna for said office.

JAMES MONROE.

March 6th, 1817.

To the Senate of the United States:

I nominate Richard Cutts, late Superintendent General of Military Supplies, to be Second Comptroller in the Treasury Department, under the act of the 3d March, 1817, to provide for the prompt settlement of public accounts; William Lee, late Accountant of the War Department; Peter Hagner, late additional Accountant of the War Department; Constant Freeman, late Accountant of the Navy Department; and Stephen Pleasonton, of the State of Delaware, to be Auditors in the Treasury Department, under the act aforesaid.

John Coffee, of Tennessee, to be Surveyor of the lands in the northern part of the Mississippi Territory, under the act of 3d March, 1817.

Israel Pickens, of North Carolina, to be Register of the Land Office in the Mississippi Territory, east of Pearl River.

Alexander Pope, of Georgia, to be Register of the Land Office to be opened in the Mississippi Territory, under the act of 3d March, 1815.

John Taylor, of South Carolina, to be Receiver of Public Moneys at the Land Office to be opened in the Mississippi Territory, under the act of the 3d March, 1815.

Stephenson Archer, of Maryland, to be additional Judge in the Mississippi Territory, to reside in the eastern part thereof, under the act of the 3d March, 1817.

JAMES MONROE.

March 5th, 1817.

The messages were severally read; and,

On motion, they were considered by unanimous consent; and

Resolved, That the Senate do advise and consent to the appointments, agreeably to the nominations respectively.

The Vice-President having absented himself for the purpose;

On motion,

The Senate proceeded to the choice of a President pro tempore, as the Constitution provides, and the Honorable John Gaillard was elected.

On motion,

Ordered, That the Secretary wait on the President of the United States, and acquaint him that the Senate have, in the absence of the Vice-President, elected the Honorable John Gaillard, President of the Senate, pro tempore.

The following written message was received from the President of the United States, by Mr. Todd:

To the Senate of the United States:

I nominate Samuel B. Jackson, John D. Armstrong, Andrew B. Cook, John H. Gordon, Thomas Williamson, John Dix, George S. Sproston, Silas D. Wickes, and Thomas Cadle, Surgeons' Mates, to be Surgeons in the Navy of the United States.

JAMES MONROE.

The message was read; and,

On motion,

It was considered by unanimous consent; and,

On motion,

Ordered, That the further consideration thereof be postponed until to-morrow.

Ordered, That the Secretary make return to the President of the United States, of all nominations this day acted on.

Mr. Barbour reported from the Committee, that they had waited on the President of the United States, who informed them he had no further communications to make to the Senate. Whereupon,

The President adjourned the Senate, *sine die*.

END OF THE THIRTY-NINTH SESSION.